

VERMONT TRANSCRIPT.

ST. ALBANS.

Friday, April 29, 1864.

UNION NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The undersigned, who, by original appointment, or subsequent designation to fill vacancies, constitute the Executive Committee created by the National Convention held at Chicago on the 16th day of May, 1863, do hereby call upon all qualified voters who desire the unconditional maintenance of the Union, the suppression of the existing rebellion, and the complete emancipation of the colored race, to assemble at BALTIMORE, on TUESDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF JUNE, 1864, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of presenting candidates for the office of President and Vice President of the United States. Each State having a representation in Congress will be entitled to a number of delegates as shall be equal to twice the number of electors to which such State is entitled in the Electoral College of the United States.

EDWIN D. MORRIS, New York, Chairman.
CHARLES C. GILMAN, Maine.
L. BRANFORD, Vermont.
J. Z. GOODRICH, Massachusetts.
THOMAS C. BLINDE, Rhode Island.
GIDEON WELLS, Connecticut.
And 16 others.

THE OPENING CAMPAIGN.

Without doubt the time for the opening campaign has nearly arrived. The grand armies of the Union have been duly marshalled and are about to advance to what, we trust, will prove the final conflict in the great rebellion. Preparations for the last few weeks have been made at every point that our armies might move with energy and resistless power against the enemy.

No family in the whole country fails to feel a personal interest in the coming contest which is heightened by the presence of one or more of its members. If the capture of Richmond is, as is conceded by all of our leaders, a necessity of the war, then vital importance attaches to the present advance movements from the Rapidan south, and from Yorktown west. Virginia will be the battle-ground, and at least half of the forces are to be concentrated on the soil of the "Old Dominion."

The eyes of the country are fixed upon the new Lieut. General who is the supreme head in military affairs. If there are blunders made now, the responsibility will lie at Gen. Grant's door. If any laurels are gained we shall know whose brow they ought to encircle.

The prayers of all loyal people ought to ascend to the God of battles that He will now graciously vouchsafe to give victory to the soldiers of Liberty and Union. As the trumpets sound and the hosts gather, let us pray with one accord that the conflict may be speedy and final, and that victory may perch upon the banners of those who are trying to promote the cause of freedom and justice.

THE FOUR CORNERED POLITICAL EDIFICE.

Among the problems that are distracting the minds of the thoughtful portion of our politicians, the question "what is to be done with the colored freedmen that are within our lines?" is not the most insignificant. One of our exchanges has given attention to this problem and thus happily disposes it. At the end of three years of war, we ought to have arrived at some well defined policy as to the measures to be taken at every step, with regard to the negroes who are within our lines as our armies advance.

John Adams tells us that social order rests on the church, the school, the town, and the militia. This is the theory of government. In the practice of the last three years, we have found out that, with these negroes, the decrees of the legislature are by no means sufficient to give them the blessings of freedom. The pious and devoted missionaries, who interpret to them the Gospel are satisfied that the church alone is not a sufficient ally to the legislature. The efficient and well conducted Boards of Education which have sent the very flower of the North to teach them, not only letters, but all the rudiments of civilized life, know very well that church, school-house and law are not enough. At the end of three years most of us have learned that this edifice has four corners, and that before it is firmly built, the man who lives in civil order, who learns at school, and who worships God, must be able to carry arms to protect church, home and school-house; and the arms must be given him to bear.

Once put the citizen in this position, make him soldier as well as juror, scholar and worshipper, and you have established society on a permanent or conservative basis. There appears to be no other basis so permanent.

LET THEM LEARN TO DEFEND THEMSELVES.

If we mean to have a civilized community south of Mason and Dixon's line "when this cruel war is over," we must remember this lesson, taught us by the war, by old theory and by our own new experiments. Unless we want to look upon a desert, to be repopulated with new men and new homes, we must keep the population as nearly as possible where we find it;—we must sustain it, consolidate it and strengthen it, by law, religion, education and military organization of its people.

The population must be kept, as far as possible, where it is. If the rebel whites choose to flee before us,—so much the worse for them. Because they do, there is all the more reason why we should encourage the new made peasantry of that country, to remain on the lands which their old masters have deserted,—to continue the agriculture and other industry which they best understand. This is what even their instincts make them wish to

do. Our policy should encourage that desire. They will need protection from guerrillas of course. Who so fit to give them that protection as themselves? Let them be trained to arms. Let those who do not enlist in the army, be encouraged or compelled to join in the militia which is to protect their homes. Little guerrilla raiding need be feared, in a country known to be spotted with negro cabins, with a firelock as certainly ready for use in each, as it was in the old New England farm-house. Little danger for missionary of religion, for teacher of school, or for the enforcement of civil process in that region. Little need for costly garrisons or troops of cavalry to protect trains of subsistence. That country defends itself.

LET THE SOUTHERN NEGRO REMAIN AT HOME.

Such a system is that above alluded to which is very distinctly taught us by our successes in some quarters and our failures in others. We hear of no guerrilla raids in the regions around Norfolk and Fortress Monroe. We do hear of long and successful foraging excursions made from that region almost to the walls of Richmond. Why is this? It is simply that the 70,000 negroes in that military department have not been huddled together into penitentiaries or other lazaret-houses, not colonized in regions unfamiliar. They have been scattered on the abandoned farms. Where they have been insulted they have repelled insult, and the consequence is they have not been insulted again. Their able-bodied men have enlisted, almost to a man. Their old men and boys and women are enough to keep the country from the pest of knots of mounted men, here called bushwhackers and there guerrillas, who are the enemies of all armies and all civilization.

On the other hand, the condition of Northern Virginia between our lines and the Potomac is a standing disgrace to our policy. That country is so far a desert that any Mosby strays through it at his will. The people who cultivated it have been sent hither and thither away from their homes. The farms which might this summer have provided very essential supplies for the Army of the Potomac are laid waste. The peasantry, which would have given all information to our commanders, which would have checked, endangered and kept at a distance undisciplined marauders, has been scattered. Every army train is exposed to insult, and when the war is over, there is a strip of desert to redeem.

The true policy of the government is to manumit everywhere the system begun upon the James River. Encourage the negro to remain at his home,—unless he enlist in the army. Protect his family there, and show them how to protect themselves. Insist that they shall support themselves, and while they do so, give them the support you give every other citizen. This is the new civilization started on the basis of church, school house, town and militia.

OUR LOCAL PROSPERITY.—It is evident that the local advancement of St. Albans will be greatly enhanced during the present season. Additions to our present population and the building of new houses for dwellings and places of business, all indicate our advancement. St. Albans is a natural centre for a large and growing business. But while anticipating an increase of trade and desirable improvements, and making due preparations for them, certain considerations ought to be remembered which, in the words of one of our exchanges, are important for property-owners to consider before it is too late. "It were well for those most interested, to avoid the extremes which have in all times, more or less affected the advancement of all natural business points. The question of high rents and exorbitant prices for real estate, are among the usual drawbacks to progress. There is no denying that high rents are evidence of present prosperity; they may be anything but indicative of continued prosperity. We believe them in the long run inimical to the business of the place, calculated to drive out useful population, and cripple the operations upon which the community must depend, if it would thrive.

At first glance it would appear to be the interest of the real estate owner to get a high price for a place to build stores or other places for building and doing business, or to get high rents. Such a view, although natural enough, may be merely superficial. If the rents he is collecting are calculated to keep out a useful and enterprising population, thus preventing the growth of both the village and its business, and retarding the advance in value of its property, it is possible he may be losing the greater price, even while his profits appear to be large. The first and highest interest of owners, depends upon the enlargement and improvement of the place. Progress of this kind not only makes an investment in real estate yield a good interest, but it adds to the principal. Hence whatever will bring manufacturing or business of any kind requiring labor, and of course men to perform it, develops the wealth of every present owner of real estate. But manufacturing cannot come, nor grow, if labor is taken to the full extent of its earnings, over and above a mere livelihood, for home rent; or exorbitant "war prices" for "lots and privileges" for those who are anxious to come among us to help build us up and share in our prosperity."

THE VERMONT CONFERENCE.—The Vermont Annual Conference of the M. E. Church held its twentieth session at St. Johnsbury, commencing April 13. About 125 ministers were present, and it was regarded as one of the most pleasant and interesting sessions ever held.

Strong action was taken to aid the efforts of the Christian Commission. Bishop James made a stirring speech, illustrating the necessity, object, operations and success of this christian organization, and urged upon the conference the faithful execution of their pledge to keep at least five of its members in its service during the war.

Ex-Governor Fairbanks, after making some very appropriate remarks respecting the sanctity of the christian sabbath, presented to each member of the conference a copy of Rev. Mr. Gillfillan's valuable work on this important subject.

The anniversaries of the various benevolent societies were held afternoons and evenings. The reports of the same show a large increase in benevolent contributions.

Rev. S. H. Colburn was appointed to preach the Conference sermon at the next conference with Rev. A. Hitchcock as alternate.

W. W. Atwater presented a resolution which passed the conference, recommending the discontinuance of the practice of carrying the bodies of deceased persons into our churches on funeral occasions.

The Rev. D. W. Dayton, of St. Albans, made a stirring war speech Friday evening which was highly effective and acceptable.

On motion of Rev. Isaac McAnn, Bradford was fixed upon as the seat of the next conference.

The Conference tendered a hearty vote of thanks to the Railroad companies, stage proprietors, the people of St. Johnsbury and the choir.

Religious services were held in both of the Congregational churches and in the Methodist on Sunday. Six were ordained to the office of Deacons, and four to that of Elders.

The hospitality of the citizens of St. Johnsbury was fully proven in the very generous manner in which they entertained the members of the conference, and it was a season the memory and influence of which will long remain.

The General Conference, which meets once in four years, holds its session this year in Philadelphia, commencing May 1st. Four delegates were elected to attend, viz: Revs. P. P. Ray, A. T. Ballard, McKendree Petty and D. W. McKenzie, with Revs. W. D. Malcom and Z. H. Brown, of St. Albans, as reserves.

The Conference closed its twentieth session on Monday, April 18th.

FRANKLIN COUNTY COURT—APRIL TERM, 1864.

FRIDAY, April 22.—The case Paschal Miller vs. Horace Livingston, both of St. Albans, which was on trial last week when we went to press, was terminated April 22d, by a verdict for the plaintiff—damages \$53.81—M. Back and N. F. Wood, attorneys for the plaintiff, and Royce & Hall, for the defendant.

William D. Tyler, Esq., of Essex, Vt., having been duly examined and recommended, was by order of Court duly sworn and admitted to be an attorney and counsellor in said court.

The case of J. Russell Arnington vs. A. B. Houston, of Northfield, being an action of trover for goods, resulted in a verdict for defendant. Edward A. Sowles and Myron Buck for the plaintiff, and Dewey & Noble for the defendant.

SAUNDAY, April 23.—The trial of Perry G. Cook of Fairfax, vs. Theophilus Foss of St. Albans, was continued throughout the day and lasted until Monday evening, April 25th, when a verdict was rendered for the plaintiff to recover \$27.79 and his cost. Hubbell & Clark, Edson & Rand attorneys for the plaintiff, and Myron Buck and H. R. Beardsley for the defendant.

TUESDAY, April 26.—The Jury having been dismissed, the trial of causes by the Court was commenced. Gilbert Wells and others vs. Roswell S. Wells' estate, being an appeal from the Probate Court, was finished and submitted. Royce & Hall for the appellee and Edson & Rand for the appellant.

Hiram Bellows vs. James Bevins, being an action of ejectment, was tried and submitted. Dewey & Noble attorneys for plaintiff, and Anson Soule, attorney for the defendant.

Rosina Rockwell, of Sheldon, who pleaded guilty of theft to an amount of less than seven dollars, was sentenced by the Court to twenty days imprisonment in Franklin County jail.

Mary Shelley, of Fairfield, who pleaded guilty of the offence of receiving stolen goods of the value of less than seven dollars, was sentenced by the Court to imprisonment in the Franklin County jail for forty days.

Mary Eldred, of Fairfield, who pleaded guilty to stealing from Mrs. Weston in East Fairfield, goods to an

amount of less than seven dollars, was sentenced to an imprisonment in our county jail for 10 days. These prisoners had been in jail for some considerable time, which fact had weight with the Court in imposing the light sentences which are here mentioned.

WEDNESDAY, April 27.—The case of Henry E. Seymour vs. Calvin L. Loomis, being an action against the defendant as endorser of a note signed by John M. Brown, was tried and submitted on Thursday. Royce and Beardsley attorneys for plaintiff, and Edson & Rand for the defendant.

INTELLIGENT NEW ENGLAND.—It has always been the boast of Republicans that theirs was the party of education and intelligence, and they have told the story so many times, that they really believe that their party embraces all the intelligence of the country. A friend has handed us a copy of the Vermont Transcript, published at St. Albans, in that State, which, though an abolition print, is a perfect "bumper" on this theory of Republican intelligence. We find in it three legal advertisements, which, by law, have to be signed by the parties, but at the end of each the parties have made their mark, thus being unable to write their names. And this is New England, the land of abolition majorities and education! A striking commentary on the intelligence of that section.

It is a fact, however, that a more ignorant and deluded people than the New Englanders generally, who have any pretense of education, do not exist. It is not only so in Vermont but in the other States. In all the manufacturing districts the most abject ignorance prevails.

This amusing paragraph is copied from the Beaver Dam Argus, a weekly democratic newspaper, printed at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, "devoted to the dissemination of useful knowledge."

That paper may not know that the signatures to the liberation notices referred to were those of foreigners who have recently come from Canada, and undoubtedly, so far as they have any political faith, sympathize with the Beaver Dam Argus and its political feelings.

The whole paragraph indicates an overweening anxiety to vilify New England and is calculated to provoke an equal amount of ridicule and contempt.

THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE, 1864.—Under the new apportionment, the following will be the electoral vote of each State at the next Presidential election:

Alabama	9	Missouri	11
California	9	Nevada	3
Colorado	3	New Jersey	11
Connecticut	7	New Hampshire	3
Delaware	3	New York	36
Florida	9	Ohio	21
Illinois	12	Oregon	3
Indiana	11	Pennsylvania	20
Iowa	7	Rhode Island	4
Kansas	6	Tennessee	10
Kentucky	11	Vermont	3
Louisiana	7	Virginia	12
Maine	7	Washington	3
Maryland	10	Wisconsin	7
Massachusetts	12	West Virginia	5
Michigan	11		
Minnesota	5		
Total	287		

The following is the apportionment of the States in rebellion:

Alabama	9	South Carolina	6
Florida	9	Texas	6
Georgia	9	Virginia (partly)	6
Mississippi	7		
North Carolina	9	Total	54

Whole number of electoral votes 321; necessary to a choice of all votes, 162. Necessary to a choice, omitting the vote of those States and parts of the States in rebellion, 134.

HOW SHALL SOLDIERS VOTE.—As the question whether the soldiers of the army shall be permitted to vote at the next Presidential election has been already decided affirmatively in many of the States, and will, we may presume, be so decided in all, it is generally felt that the question next in importance under this head relates to the manner in which the ballots of the soldiers shall be cast and reported to the commissioners of the election in the several States. If these ballots are cast by the soldiers in their camps, under the direction and subject to the control of the military authorities, it is apparent that the condition of civil independence, indispensable to the proper exercise of the elective franchise, cannot be held to exist in that case. The freedom and security of the ballot under such circumstances will be exchanged for the regiment and surveillance of the military code, under which a failure to reflect the wishes and do the bidding of superiors is liable to entail on subordinates the pains and penalties of military rigor.

And besides, what guarantees are there to protect the purity of the ballot where the votes of soldiers are deposited in camp? Where soldiers vote by companies, regiments, or brigades there is danger not only of moral coercion in individual cases, but the conditions for determining the right of suffrage in such cases do not exist, in the absence of witnesses to challenge the right and bear testimony on the question. The challengers cannot confront the voter in the camp, and thus an opening is left for the admission of fraudulent votes.

These views are so apparent, and are felt by men of all parties to be so important to the prevention of abuses in taking the suffrage of the soldiers, that a republican paper like the New York Tribune concurs with a democratic journal like the New York World in urging that the ballot of each soldier shall be cast by proxy in the State, county, and precinct where he claims to be entitled to vote. In this way his personal independence will be protected and his right to vote can be determined by those having local acquaintance of his qualifications. "Do let us have," says the Tribune, "a law under which the legal majority of a com-

ty cannot be swamped by votes cast a thousand miles away, by persons never heard of in that county, and at polls over which the inspectors and magistrates have no sort of control." These words may well be heeded by the Legislature of the several States, to whom it is a simple matter to enact a law easily understood, and one that gives the soldier voter a real freedom in the exercise of the right conferred upon him.—National Intelligencer.

MISCHIEF DONE BY THE BOSTON SWINDLERS.—The scallawags that were picked up by the volunteer agents and sent to town and city committees to fill up quotas, turn out to be poor materials, as might have been foreseen. Gen. Wistar writes from headquarters at Yorktown, Va., to Gen. Dix in New York, and expresses himself strongly on the subject, as follows:

An extended spirit of desertion prevailing among the recruits recently received from the North, in some of the regiments of my command, has led me to make some inquiries resulting in apparently well authenticated information, which I beg respectfully to communicate to you in this unofficial manner, deeming it required by humanity, no less than by our common desire to benefit the service. There seems to be little doubt that many, in fact I think I am justified in saying the most, of these unfortunate men, were either deceived or kidnapped, or both, in the most scandalous and inhuman manner, in New York city, where they were dragged and carried off to New Hampshire and Connecticut, mistreated and unprovided for before their consciousness was fully restored. Even their bounty was obtained by the parties who were instrumental in these nefarious transactions, and the poor wretches find themselves, on returning to their senses, mistreated soldiers, without any pecuniary benefit. Nearly all are foreigners, mostly sailors, both ignorant of and indifferent to the objects of the war in which they thus suddenly find themselves involved. Two men were shot here this morning for desertion, and over thirty more are now awaiting trial or execution. These examples are essential, as we all understand; but it occurred to me, General, that you would pardon me for thus calling your attention to the greater crime committed in New York, of kidnapping these men into positions where, to their ignorance, desertion must seem like a vindication of their own rights and liberty.

COLORED SOLDIERS TO BE PROTECTED.—At the opening of the Baltimore Sanitary Fair on the 18th inst., President Lincoln, after referring to the massacre at Fort Pillow, said:

Many supposed the government did not intend to do its duty in regard to the protection of these colored soldiers. He desired to say that all such were mistaken. When the question of employing colored men as soldiers was left to the government, it rested very much with himself whether he should make soldiers of them or not. He pondered the matter carefully, and when he became convinced that it was a duty to employ them, he did not hesitate. He stood before the American people responsible for the act—responsible before the Christian world—for the eye of the historian—responsible for it he stood before God—and he did not shrink from the decision he had made, for he believed it was right. But when government determined to make soldiers of these colored people, he thought it only just that they should have the same protection as the white soldiers. (Applause.) And he hesitated not to declare that the government would so protect them to the utmost of its power.

Whenever a clear, authenticated case should be made out, retribution would follow. It had hitherto been difficult to ascertain with that certainty which should govern a decision in a matter so serious. But in the affair at Fort Pillow he thought they were likely to find a clear case. The government had no direct evidence to confirm the reports in existence relative to the massacre, but he feared that the facts as related were true. When the Government does know the facts from official sources, and they substantiate the reports, retribution will be surely given.

ALL QUIET.—The quiet which has prevailed so many weeks and even months along the lines of our principal armies cannot continue many weeks longer. Something must be done. The rebels cannot afford to pass the spring months without action; neither can the Government of the United States. This is the quiet that precedes a storm. Forces are being marshalled and all the preparations for a mighty contest are rapidly going forward. On both sides exertions are being made to render the coming battle as decisive as possible. We hope and trust that they may be decisive of a final Union triumph. The army of the Potomac has fought many a battle with unsurpassed bravery. From various causes the results of these battles have not been so decisive as we wished. We hope that under the leadership of the victorious General Grant, they will win a victory which shall be to the rebels a Waterloo of defeat. But during the progress of this rebellion, we have learned that the fortunes of war are most uncertain. Some small and unlooked for circumstances may thwart the best and most far-seeing plan for a campaign or battle. Of course, it is possible that in the next great conflict the rebels may get the advantage. But it will not follow by any means that they will thereby achieve their independence. We believe that this they can never do. So believe the great majority of the people of the North, who are acting upon this belief, will continue so to act until the last vestige of treason shall

be swept away. Should our armies be defeated and scattered, more armies will be raised. Americans will not prove false to American liberty. Liberty shall come out of the conflict freer, prouder, than ever.—Windsor Journal.

Walton's Daily Journal disseminates the story told in last week's Transcript, as appears from the following paragraph:

Luttrell K. Denny mentions the discovery of four iron wheels, at Alton, Illinois, one hundred and twenty feet below the surface of the earth,—the layers above being coal, slate, granite, and blue clay. Undoubtedly the wheels were "discovered," but not uncovered. It was easy to put them in after the hole had been dug. Much easier than to believe they were put there before the rocks and earth were made above them. Not a bad story for April 1st.

WAR NEWS.

New York, April 26.—The Times Washington dispatch says:—Runners are about that the whole of Longstreet's army is marching down the valley toward the Maryland line.

The World's dispatch says: Gen. Grant has taken measures to add numbers enough to the regular armies in the field to make them irresistible. The main armies, when the shock of battle comes will be found in stronger force than ever before.

The Herald's letter from Williamsburgh, Va., 23d, says: Contrabands are again coming into our lines. The rebels are strengthening themselves at various points on the Peninsula, to provide against an attack in that quarter. Gen. Fitz Hugh Lee is in the neighborhood of Charles City Court House with a cavalry force, variously estimated at from 4,500 to 6,000. That place is garrisoned by Pickett's old infantry regiments under Gen. Elsay, and a regiment of heavy artillery is at Brimley's York river, and is throwing up earthworks. Troops are concentrating on all the intermediate points between the York and James rivers.

Contrabands state that great excitement prevails among the scattered inhabitants, a Yankee advance being momentarily expected.

Commodore Wm. D. Porter has returned from an expedition up the Rapidan river, having destroyed over thirty boats and brought away twenty-two boats with forty-five contrabands and a large quantity of provisions.

Major-General Frank P. Blair, Jr., has been ordered by the President to take command of the 17th Army Corps, and left Washington on Sunday for the field.

Gen. Lee's Movements and Forces.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The Star of this afternoon says:—

"Information from the rebel lines as late as Friday morning last, is to the effect that Lee was not, as has been reported, moving toward the Shenandoah Valley, but was at that time in his old position on the Rapidan. Such movements of his cavalry as were going on seemed to be in the nature of a reconnaissance to ascertain Gen. Grant's purposes, and the fact of Gen. Grant having sent out unusually large picket forces seems to have mystified the enemy on various occasions. Lee's army was preparing for a sudden move, but was seemingly disposed to wait for Gen. Grant to open and develop his game. The presence of our gunboats up the Rapidan had raised an alarm in Richmond that Gen. Burnside was effecting a landing there, and a new alarm had been raised among the rebels of a movement by the Federals up the south side of James river. The rebels are divided between the fear that Lee may be invested in Richmond, should he fall back there, and the fear that he may be outflanked by Grant should he remain in his present position. Two weeks ago Lee's forces amounted to 40,000 men, and it is believed now that with the reinforcements he has been able to bring up they do not amount to over 85,000.

From North Carolina.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 24.—The following has been received here:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF NORTH CAROLINA, April 2. General Orders No. 66.

With feelings of the deepest sorrow the Commanding General announces the fall of Plymouth, N. C., and the capture of its gallant commander, Brig. Gen. H. W. Wessels, and his command. This result, however, they did not obtain until the most gallant and determined resistance had been made. Five times the enemy stormed the lines of the General, and as many times were they handsomely repulsed with great slaughter. But for the powerful resistance of the rebel iron clad ram and the floating sharp shooter battery, the Cotton Plant, Plymouth would still have been in our hands. For their noble defence the gallant Gen. Wessels and his brave band have deserved the warmest thanks of the whole country, while all will sympathize with them in their misfortune. To the officers and men of the navy the Commanding General tenders his thanks for their hearty co-operation with the army and for their bravery and determination which marked their part of the unequal contest. With sorrow he records the death of the gallant patriot, Lieutenant Commanding C. W. Frusse, who, in the heat of the battle, fell dead on the deck of the ship, with the lanyard of the gun in his hands. The Commanding General believes that these misfortunes will tend not to discourage but nerve the army of North Carolina to equal deeds of bravery and gallantry hereafter, until further orders.

By order of MAJ. GEN. PECK.

NEWBERRY, N. C., April 22.—Gen. Wessels, who gained such distinction in the seven days' fight before Richmond, has made in this siege a most heroic resistance with his little band of veterans. Several weeks since he called for 5000 men, stating in the most solemn manner that it would be

impossible to hold the city with a less force. Gen. Peck, who has given Gen. Wessels all the assistance in his power, has time and again called for reinforcements.

It is reported that the enemy have left Plymouth, and are now moving on Washington and also on this city.

The rebel ram at Kingston, on the Neuse, is, it is ascertained, moved toward Newbern, and is expected to make the attack in a day or two. More gunboats and reinforcements are immediately required here and at Washington.

Two companies belonging to the 2d North Carolina Union Volunteers were among the captured at Plymouth, most of whom were taken out and rendered. All the negroes found uniform were also shot.

New York, April 27.—The Times Washington dispatch says:—All quiet at the front to-day. A heavy rain commences into the valley develops the fact that no considerable body of rebels is this side of the Rapidan. The general belief is that Lee will not venture an offensive movement. A report prevails that Lee is moving his heavy artillery to Richmond. The reported advance of the rebels toward Washington was caused by the falling back of Gen. Gregg's division to Three Mile Station for military purposes. There is no foundation for the rumor that Longstreet is at Thoroughfare Gap. Five Hugh Lee's division was reviewed by Stuart to-day at Hampton's Crossing. Deserters are again coming into our lines. At one point the rebel number has been eight per cent, principally from the 42d and 17th Virginia regiments. Gen. Foster has applied for a command in the field, and will probably be assigned to a position near Gen. Burnside. Admiral Dahlgren leaves in a few days to resume command of the fleet of Charleston. President Hamlin and family leave tomorrow for Maine.

The Tribune's dispatch says: Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Fox, is gone to Fortress Monroe. The position vacant by the death of Gen. Lytle is already scrambled for. Gen. Halleck is said to be ahead. The strength of the 19th Army Corps now 40,000.

The World's Washington dispatch says: The sentence of Admiral Wessels by court martial is "dismissal from service."

One-third of our cavalry with the Army of the Potomac has been dismounted.

The Herald's Harper's Ferry dispatch reports a spirited engagement between a detachment of 100 of the 1st N. Y. cavalry and 300 to 400 rebels at Newton, near Strasburg. The rebels having the advantage, our loss was an officer killed and quite a number of men.

We learn that the steamer Grehound has been sent up the James river to City Point to order down two French steamers and two sailing vessels there after tobacco. The rebels would be back in Hampton Roads to-day without any tobacco.

CINCINNATI, April 27.—As previously stated to the Gazette from Chattanooga, Tenn.: On the 23d the rebels attacked our pickets near Nickayack Gap, taking two, wounding several and capturing nineteen. Some of our men were killed after surrendering, and were the wounded were cruelly butchered on the field.

Particulars of the Surrender of Plymouth.

REBEL BARRIBATTES.

A telegram of the 22d says:—In a battle which had been going on all day at Plymouth, from Sunday 17th till Wednesday the 20th, resulted in the capture of the city by the rebels on Wednesday noon, including Gen. Wessels and his force of 1500 men. The enemy obtained possession of that at 8 o'clock in the morning. Gen. Wessels and his troops retired to Fort Williams, and held out until noon, repulsing the enemy in seven desperate assaults. The rebel loss is said to be 1700, while our loss was 500. Gen. Wessels has made in this siege most heroic resistance with his little band of veterans. He and Gen. Peck had both asked 5000 more men before the battle. Two companies belonging to the 2d North Carolina Union Volunteers were among the captured at Plymouth, most of whom were taken out and rendered. All the negroes found in Federal uniform were also shot.

The Middlebury Register will serve: For forty years there has been in this State an almost total neglect of the registration in the public records of marriages and births. It is a neglect that ought not to continue, and deficiencies should be supplied. There are few families whose records are easily obtained and a transcript of the evidence in any court of law. The commencement of the war has multiplied of cases involving prisoners, bounties, &c., the value of records are being better understood. There is no certainty, with any family, that an official transcript of their family record may not be of great value now or later, and the expense of a mere trifle.

Samuel Wells Williams, LL.D., for many years in the missionary service of the American Board, and at present Secretary of the American Legation in China, has transmitted \$3000 to the Christian Commission for the relief of soldiers and sailors. He says: "Although I have been a resident in China for nearly thirty years, I have much in maintaining the Union as I had lived in the United States. I wish to help the cause."

The Vermont Central Railroad Company are building an additional feet by 40, to their freight depot at Burlington to accommodate the unloading and storage of merchandise from boats.—Burlington Times.